



Dougherty, Clements & Hofer

Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights

*The Roxborough Building
1901 Roxborough Road, Suite 300
Charlotte, NC 28211 USA*

May 4, 2004

VIA FACSIMILE 703.308.7952

Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-11450

Re: Appeal No. 2004-1029
Sheppard, James M.
Application No. 09/747,529
Our Docker: 2827

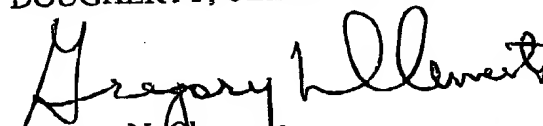
BOARD OF PATENT
APPEALS &
INTERFERENCES
MAY - 4 2004

Gentlemen:

We have received the attached Notice of Hearing for Wednesday, July 14, 2004 for the above-identified U. S. Patent application. By view of this letter and the attachment set forth we are hereby confirming that we will be in attendance on that day (the inventor, James M. Sheppard, Jr. and the undersigned).

Respectfully,

DOUGHERTY, CLEMENTS & HOFER


Gregory N. Clements

GNC/nb

Enclosure

- Notice of Hearing

CC: James R. Sheppard, Jr. w/ enclosure

Safeguarding the Rewards of Creativity